

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 00004 200410Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 MMO-01
ACDA-07 ERDA-05 /097 W
-----123511 200526Z /16

R 200100Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3616
INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
CINCPAC HONOLULU
AMCONSUL AUCKLAND

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 04 OF 04 WELLINGTON 02849

DEPARTMENT PASS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

HAVING "GONE ALONG" WITH MULDOON ON THE "EXCEPTIONAL
CIRCUMSTANCES" LEGISLATION AND FOR ALLEGEDLY DRINKING
AND RELAXING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER IN AUCKLAND. EVEN
MEMBERS OF THE FOL EXECUTIVE PRIVATELY CRITICIZED
SKINNER FOR HIS LACK OF FIRM LEADERSHIP AGAINST WHAT
THEY PERCEIVED WAS A PERNICIOUS, ANTI-UNION ASSAULT BY
THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

BY THE MAY 1977 FOL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE TRUE EXTENT
OF SKINNER'S LEADERSHIP SLIPPAGE HAD BECOME EVIDENT.
TWO OF THE PREVIOUSLY ALL MODERATE SIX-MEMBER EXECUTIVE
WERE DEFEATED BY AN AVOWED COMMUNIST AND SECRETARY OF
THE WELLINGTON DRIVERS UNION AND WELLINGTON TRADES
COUNCIL, KEN DOUGLAS, AND THE AFOREMENTIONED WES
CAMERON. WORSE STILL, THE ELECTION OF CAMERON WAS TAINT-
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ED (TWICE) BY NOT-SO-WELL-DISGUISED BALLOT STUFFING BY
THE LEFTIST UNIONS, AND SKINNER CHOSE TO COVER UP THE
FACT.

SIR TOM STILL COMMANDS A MAJORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE.
HE EXPECTS, AND UNTIL NOW HAS RECEIVED, LOYALTY FROM
WITHIN THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT FOR FOL EXECUTIVE

DECISIONS. BUT THE COMMUNISTS AND FAR-LEFTISTS WERE
PREPARED AT THE 1977 FOL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, KNEW WHAT
THEY WANTED, WORKED HARD IN THE AISLES TO GET IT AND
STAYED UNTIL THE LAST GAVEL DROPPED (GIVING THEM AN
INFLUENCE IN THE LATTER STAGES OF THE
CONFERENCE WELL OUT OF PROPORTION TO THEIR
ACTUAL NUMBERS). THEY OUT-MANEUVERED THE MODERATES
AND REAPED THE REWARDS. SIR TOM AND HIS BAND OF MIDDLE-
OF-THE-ROADERS WILL HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE INCREASING
EFFECTIVENESS IN DEALING WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND LIKELY
AN ADDITIONAL MILITANCY WITH RESPECT TO INDUSTRIAL
DISPUTES IF THEY ARE TO AVOID STILL FURTHER DEFEATS
IN THE YEAR AHEAD. SELDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNIONS, LABOR POLICY LINE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: ELAB, NZ, (SKINNER)
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Type: TE
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